DECLASSIFIED E.O. 12356 23-9 LIBYA

Department of State **TELEGRAM**

UNCLASSIFIED 920

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ACTION AF 18

INFO OCT 01, EUR 17, IO 13, CCO 00, UCF 05, CIAE 00, DODE 00, NSAE 00,
NSCE 00, SSO 00, USIE 00, AID 28, FBO 01, JPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03,
NIC 01, NSC 10, O 02, OC 06, OPR 02, P 03, PER 02, RSC 01, PRS 01, SCA 01,
SCSE 00, SS 20, SY 03, PC 04, RSR 01, /156 W

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O R 010550Z SEP 69 ZFF-1
FM AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4558
INFO AMEMBASSY BAIDA

UNCLAS TRIPOLI 2083

1. VOLLEYS OF GUNFIRE BROKE OUT IN CENTER OF TRIPOLI THIS MORNING AROUND 0515. ROAD BLOCK ESTABLISHED BY ARMY AROUND ROYAL PALACE IN VICINITY OF EMBASSY. POLICE REFUSING ALLOW PASSAGE PAST ROAD BLOCK. ORIGIN AND SIGNIFICANCE OF FIRING AND OF BLOCKS NOT CLEAR. BRITISH COLLEAGUE (GOULDING) HAS JUST INFORMED ME THAT FOUR ARMY FERRETS STOPPED IN FRONT OF CROWN PRINCE'S TOWN PALACE, CREWS DESCENDED, SCUFFLED WITH POLICE, FIRED SHOT, ENTERED, LOOKED AROUND AND DEPARTED.

2. SIGNIFICANCE FOREGOING NOT CLEAR BUT WE ARE ALERTING AMERICAN COMMUNITY TO REMAIN AT HOME UNTIL SITUATION CLARIFIES.

3. FOREIGN OFFICE SOURCE (BURSHAN) WHO JUST CONTACTED STATED AREA INFRONT OF CASTLE DOWNTOWN IF FILLED WITH TROOPS. LIBYA RADIO HAS BEGUN PLAY MILITARY MARCHES.

4. UNDERSTAND ALL GOL MINISTERS IN BAIDA, EXCEPT FOR MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND ACTING FOREIGN MINISTER MUNTASIR.
BLAKE

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
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TS AUTH. REASON(S)
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